

# **Community Engagement in School Restructuring**

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# Presentation Structure

- Overview
- Three Main Themes
- Questions

# Overview



# Overview: Approach

- Focus on Reflection and Learning
- Acknowledgement of Bigger Picture
- Thoughtful, Committed Individuals
- High Praise for District's Vision
- No Dichotomies



# Overview: Methodology

## ➤ Three Main Areas

- School Closing: (Task Forces – Board Vote)
- Student Transition: (Board Vote – Year End)
- Wider Restructuring

# Overview: Methodology

## ➤ Many Different Sources

- Community and School Board Meetings
- Interviews
- District Materials
- Articles
- Promising Practice Review

# Overview: Main Themes

- Expectations of Value
- Internal Culture Change
- Honoring Community

# Expectations of Value



# Expectations of Value

- Importance of Intention
- Clear Definition
- Well-Managed Expectations
  - Clear Goals and Outcomes
  - How Input will Matter
  - Explicit about Implementation

# Expectations of Value

## ➤ Value Derived: School Closings

- Timing and Logistics of Community Meetings
- Transportation Costs
- Marshall and Grass Valley
- Lakeview and Burckhalter
- Data-driven Process

# Expectations of Value

- Community Input: School Closings
  - Thoughtful Attendance
  - Demonstrated Listening
  - Less Transparent Feedback
  - Promising Practice
- Community Input: Task Forces
  - Less Visible Link

# Expectations of Value

## ➤ Ideas Around Value

- High Symbolic Worth
- Less Visible Value to District



# Internal Culture Change



# Internal Culture Change

- Set a Clear, Compelling Vision
- Model Desired Behavior
- Engage in Transparent Reflection
  - Measures of Effort **and** Effect
  - Community Meeting Concerns
  - Specific Commitments
  - Aspirational Goals

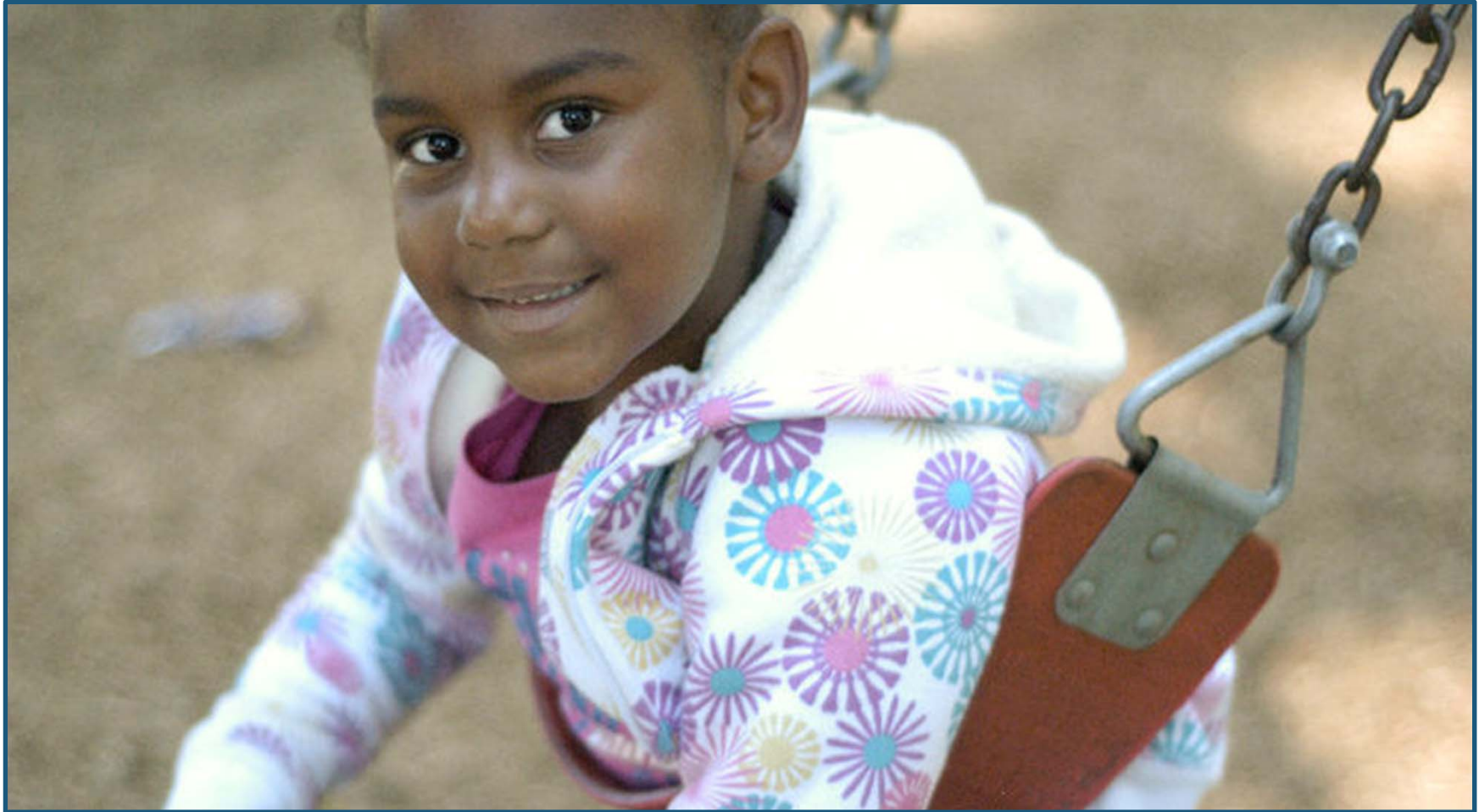
# Internal Culture Change

- Emphasize Departure from Past Culture
- Incorporate Ground-level Knowledge
- Consider Promising Practices
  - Communicating the Why
  - Change Champions
  - Anonymous Comment Box

# Internal Culture Change

- Create Clear, Concise, Consistent Messages
  - Easily Recognizable Themes
  - Personal Example
- Create a Structured Communication Plan
  - Systematic School Site Support
  - Proactive Communication

# Honoring Community



# Honoring Community

Community is not homogenous and change is personal. As such, broad approaches need to be tailored to the unique needs of each community.



# Recommendations



# Suggested Supplements

- School Closings: What the District Learned
- The Marshall-Grass Valley Story
- Task Force Visions and School Closings
- Questions Answered / Progress Evaluated
- Message Mapping Tool



# Questions



# Questions

- What is missing?
- What do you see as the value to the District of community engagement?
- Whether and how political realities challenge this vision?